



NEWS RELEASE

UNITED STATES CONGRESS

For Immediate Release
June 19, 2003

Schumer, Hinchey Expect Court Facility Will be in Middletown

Washington - U.S. Senator Charles Schumer (D-NY) and U.S. Representative Maurice Hinchey (D-NY-22) today expressed confidence that a new federal magistrate and probation facility will be located in Middletown. Both Schumer and Hinchey had advocated for the selection of Middletown because of the economic benefits to the city.

"The chances of Middletown getting the court are looking good and that's excellent news," Schumer said. "As I've said before, Middletown would be an ideal location to house the magistrate's court. It meets the federal requirement that the court be housed in the Middletown/Walkill area, and would be a small step forward in boosting the ongoing economic revitalization of the city. Not only that, it would bring a federal presence to the area that would hopefully lead to more facilities here."

"Middletown meets all the government's specifications and requirements and will be an ideal location for this federal court facility," Hinchey added. "The positive impact on the city's economic development activities will be significant. This is also a great first step toward locating a larger federal courthouse in Middletown."

The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) had been scouting several locations in the Middletown/Walkill area in which to site the court facility. Because of the potential economic benefit, Schumer and Hinchey both contacted GSA to urge that the chosen site be in Middletown's business district. The two have learned that GSA circulated a Request for Proposal (RFP) and completed proposals have now been submitted. All of the sites being considered are in the city.

The establishment of a full federal courthouse in Middletown has been a longtime goal of government and business leaders in Orange County. While not directly connected, Middletown's selection as the site of the magistrate and probation facility is seen as an important step toward that goal.